

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES, DOCUMENTS AND SUPPORTS FOR CAREGIVERS/TEACHERS/DIRECTORS

Professional development opportunities and documents for caregivers/teachers/directors include, but are not limited to:

- early childhood education courses from colleges and universities;
- scholarships such as the Virginia Child Care Provider Scholarship Program (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/professionals_resources.html);
- credentialing programs;
- VDSS Infant and Toddler Endorsement program (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/development_catalog.cgi then click on “07. ECEP”);
- VDSS Child Care Professional Development Classes (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/development_catalog.cgi);
- local, regional and statewide training and conferences;
- VDSS distance learning program entitled The Program for Infant/Toddler Caregivers (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/development_catalog.cgi then click on “09. Distance Learning”);
- READ-A-BOOK program (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/professionals_resources.html);
- Virginia *Early Childhood and Child Care Professional Development Career Lattice* (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/professionals_resources.html);
- Virginia *Competencies of Early Childhood Professionals* (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/publications.cgi); and
- VDSS document entitled *The Director’s Toolbox* (www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cc/publications.cgi to request a copy).

Examples of supports for caregivers/teachers/directors for participating in professional development activities include, but are not limited to:

- scholarships,
- providing training,
- tutoring,
- incentives for completion of child related education,
- recognition,
- payment for books, and
- work with directors to develop a salary structure that incorporates the educational level of staff.